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## **TAP Cards at County Libraries**

The Board of Supervisors is making it easier to get TAP cards to pay fares on public buses and trains throughout Los Angeles County.

Acting on a motion by Supervisors Mark Ridley-Thomas and Sheila Kuehl, the Board approved a pilot program to sell TAP cards at the Lancaster, San Fernando, Paramount, El Monte and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Libraries starting in January.

“Making TAP cards conveniently available helps those who already use our buses and trains, and can encourage others to try catching a ride on public transit as well,” said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, who chairs the board at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

“With a TAP card, one can get all the way from Lancaster to Long Beach without having to fumble in pockets for change,” he added. “They can sit back and let Metro and the rest of the County’s two dozen public transit agencies do the driving.”

“The easier we make it for Angelenos to take public transit, the more likely it is that they’ll use it,” Supervisor Kuehl said.

“Now folks can buy or reload their TAP Cards while accessing all the great services our libraries have to offer,” said Kuehl. “A lot of new riders have difficulties figuring out how to buy Tap Cards, so having library staff onsite to help will make it a lot easier.”

TAP cards have an embedded computer chip, and can be reloaded and reused for up to a decade. Once registered at [www.taptogo.net](http://www.taptogo.net), lost or stolen TAP cards can be replaced along with any remaining cash value.

If the pilot program is successful, TAP cards may be sold additional libraries in the future.

“Providing Metro TAP cards is just one way we’re expanding our menu of services beyond books,” said Acting County Librarian/Chief Deputy Yolanda De Ramus.

“Whether we’re hosting flu vaccination clinics, offering passport acceptance services or providing Metro TAP cards, the County of Los Angeles Public Library is tailoring its mission to fit the needs of local communities we serve,” she added. “Plus, if people who rely on mass transit can get Metro TAP cards at our libraries, they’re more likely to see the library as a community resource – and to become regular library patrons.”

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